Goa, facilities at te local airport are intended to be expanded and upgraded. There is, however, no avoidable congestion because of chartered flights as Director General of Civil Aviation allots suitable time slots for the chartered flights.

(c) and (d) At present, National Airports Authority has no plan for expansion of Belgaum airport.

Aircraft used by Indian Airlines

1569. DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of 737 boeings with the Indian Airlines which are more than 15 years old;

(b) what is the life span of each aircraft with the Indian Airlines.

(c) whether these aircrafts are not being overused. if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) when these aircrafts will be phased out?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Inditn Airlines have 10 B_737 aircraft which are more than 15 years old.

(b) to (d) While Indian Airlines has not prescribed any specific life span for its aircraft, which can be operated as long as they are certified as airworthy, it has adopted a fleet renewal plan which envisages phasing out of more than 20 year old aircraft as a first step, aircraft between the age of 16 to 19 years are to be phased out during 1995-2000 and those between 14 to 16 years beyond the year 2000.

Providing Security Guards on Domestic Flights

1570. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to keep armed security guards on all domestic flights of Indian Airlines in order to check hijacking;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for not providing armed security;

(c) whether the crew will also be provided with licenced weapons; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) It has been decided to set-up a multi-disciplinary Group of experts to review comprehensively the existing anti-hijacking and anti-sabotage measures with a view to strengthening them. The Group will consider all relevant factors concerning aviation security.

Loss due to crash of Indian Airlines plane on 26th April, 1993

1571. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR:

SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total estimated loss due to crash of Indian Airlines plane;

(b) what is the amount of this loss that will be made good by the Insurance Companies;

(c) what amount of compensation will be paid to the kin of the dead and to the injured; and

(d) what is the number of ageing boeing aircrafts which would be grounded to avoid such accident in future and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Indian Airlines Boeing-737 aircraft, which crashed on 26.4.1993, is to be declared a total loss The aircraft's book value was Rs. 6.45 Crores and the written down value Rs. 0.80 Crores.

(b) The aircraft was insured for USD 15 Million and this amount is payable by the Insurance Company.

(c) Compensation to the next of kin of the deceased will be paid ordinarily at the rate of Rs. 5.00 lakhs for adults, and Rs. 2.50 lakhs, for children below 12 years.

(d) It has been decided that four Boeing 737 aircraft which were more than 20 years old will not be flown by Indian Airlines for commercial purposes.

Foreign citizen travelling in Indian Airlines flight which crashed at Aurangabad on 26th April, 1993

1572. SHRI MOHINDRA SINGH KALYAN:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of foreign citizens who are travelling in the Indian Airlines which crashed on 26th April, 1993 and how many of them died; and

(b) whether this will not affect the prospects of tourism in India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Six of the twelve foreign nationals who were travelling in the Indian Airlines flight which crashed on 26.4.1993 died.

(b) An isolated airline accident is not expected to have any adverse effect on tourist arrivals to India.

Overhauling of Security arangements at Airports

1573. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hijacking of Indian Airlines Planes in March and April, 1993 have made the Government think of overhauling the mode of security clearance of an Airports; and

(b) in what manner Ministries of Civil Aviation and Home co-ordinate to evolve a good security system?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Following the hijacking incident on 24.4.93, Government have instituted a high level enquiry by Secretary (Security) in the Cabinet Secretariat to look into the security lapse and recommend remedial measures.

(b) Bureau of Civil Aviation Security already maintains close coordination with security agencies under the Ministry of Home Affairs and the State Governments and issues instructions/alerts to tighten security depending upon the threat assessment.

Loss to Tourism Industry due to Riots and Agitation

1574. SHRI P. UPENDRA:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourism industry has been hard hit by the recent riots and the agitation by Indian Airlines;